

WE CLAIM:

1. A method for space planning in a health-care facility, comprising the steps of:
 - 2 receiving user requirements for a proposed health-care facility;
 - applying generic space allocations for health-care facilities to the user requirements;
 - 4 applying a cost database for health-care facilities planning to the user requirements;
 - applying generic room data sheets for health-care facilities to the user requirements;
 - 6 applying an equipment database for health-care facilities to the user requirements; and
 - generating output data for planning an health-care facility according to the user requirements.

2. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said output data includes area to be
 - 2 occupied by the health-care facility, estimated costs of constructing the health care facility
 - and identification of equipment to be provided for the health-care facility.

3. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of receiving the user
 - 2 requirements includes identification of departments to be provided in the health-care facility.

4. A method as claimed in claim 3, wherein said step of receiving the user
 - 2 requirements includes identification of expected outpatient services and desired number of
 - patient beds per department.

5. A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of:
 - 2 applying said space planning method to an existing health-care facility.

6. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of generating output data
 - 2 includes: identifying rooms to be provided for a health-care facility.

7. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of generating output data
2 includes: identifying associated supporting rooms for primary rooms of the health-care
facility and including said primary rooms and said associated supporting rooms in said output
4 data.

8. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of generating output data
2 includes: generating a total estimated cost for the health-care facility.

9. A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein said step of generating output data
2 includes: generating costs per department for the health-care facility.

10. A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
2 identifying rooms to be provided in the health-care facility by room type; and
applying generic room data to each of the room types in the health-care facility.

11. A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of:
2 identifying items of equipment to be provided for types of rooms of the health-care facility.

12. A method as claimed in claim 11, further comprising the step of:
2 identifying cost of equipment for types of rooms of the health-care facility.

13. A computer-implemented system for planning a health-care facility, comprising:
2 an input process for accepting user information on a requested health-care facility;
generic room data and cost data and area data for room types in a health-care facility;
4 a process framework for applying the generic room data and area data and cost data to the
user information; and

6 a display process for displaying output data for the health-care facility including area
information and cost information and equipment information.

14. A computer-implemented system as claimed in claim 13, wherein said generic
2 room type data includes room information for types of rooms in health-care facilities and said
process framework applies said generic room type data to the user information.

15. A computer-implemented system as claimed in claim 13, wherein said input
2 process includes identification of available departments for selection by the user.

16. A computer-implemented system as claimed in claim 15, wherein said input
2 process includes an input process for receiving information from a user on a number of bed
for each selected department and a number of outpatient services for each selected department
4 and a number of health-care professionals for each selected department of the health-care
facility.

17. A computer-implemented system as claimed in claim 13, wherein said display
2 process displays output data for common areas of the health-care facility and for department
areas of the health-care facility.

18. A computer-implemented system as claimed in claim 13, wherein said cost data
2 displayed by said display process includes an estimate for total cost of the health-care facility
and costs for systems within the health-care facility.

19. A computer-implemented method for planning a health-care facility, comprising
2 the steps of:

presenting a listing of departments of health-care facilities to a user for selection;

- 4 receiving selections of departments from the user for a health-care facility;
requesting information on each selected department from the user;
- 6 receiving said information from said user for selected departments;
applying a process framework to said selections and said information from said user, said
- 8 process framework applying generic room type data and cost data and area data to said
selections and said information from said user;
- 10 generating an output of cost information and area information for the health-care facility.

20. A computer-implemented method as claimed in claim 19, wherein said step of
2 generating generates an output of equipment information for the health-care facility.

21. A computer-implemented method as claimed in claim 19, wherein said cost
2 information includes total estimated cost information and estimated cost information per
selected department, and said area information includes total area information and area
4 information per department.

22. A computer-implemented method as claimed in claim 19, wherein said cost
2 information and area information includes information for common areas and for selected
department areas.

23. A computer-implemented method as claimed in claim 19, further comprising the
2 step of:
applying the method steps to a proposed health-care facility.

24. A computer-implemented method as claimed in claim 19, further comprising the

2 step of:

applying the method steps to an existing health-care facility.

25. A computer-implemented method as claimed in claim 19, wherein said step of

2 applying the process framework draws data from user requirements and generic space
allocations and a cost database and an equipment database and generic room data.

26. A computer-implemented method as claimed in claim 19, further comprising the

2 steps of:

receiving different user information after said step of generating the output; and

4 providing updated output information based on the different user information.